SUPPORTED BY THE SOVIET PEOPLE

In its essence Zionism is extreme nationalism, chauvinism and racial intolerance; it is justification of territorial seizures and annexation and armed adventurism; it is a cult of political arbitrariness and impunity; it is demagogy and ideological sabotage, sordid manoeuvres and perfidy.

ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE OF SOVIET PUBLIC OPINION

SUPPORTED BY THE SOVIET PEOPLE

Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion
Moscow, 1983

AN APPEAL BY AN INITIATING GROUP ON THE SETTING UP OF AN ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE OF SOVIET PUBLIC OPINION, WHICH WAS CARRIED BY ALL THE SOVIET CENTRAL NEWSPAPERS, AND THE FORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APRIL 21, 1983, HAVE EVOKED A NATIONWIDE RESPONSE. THE INITIATING GROUP AND THE EDITORIAL BOARDS OF NEWSPAPERS HAVE RECEIVED MORE THAN 500 LETTERS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE MOVE. LARGE NUMBERS OF LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE COMMITTEE ARE STILL COMING IN.

THE PRESENT COLLECTION INCLUDES THE TEXT OF THE APPEAL, INFORMATION ABOUT THE FOUNDING MEETING, AND THE TEXTS OF SOME OF THE LETTERS.

The Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion

Moscow, 1983

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APPEAL

The international situation has sharply deteriorated recently as a result of actions by imperialism's most aggressive forces, especially the reactionary circles of the US. Imperialism is pinning its hopes on being able to change in its favour the balance of military forces between the NATO and Warsaw Treaty countries, between the US and the USSR, and is stepping up the arms race. A psychological war has been unleashed on Washington's initiative, and attempts are being made to launch a crusade against the USSR and world socialism. The threat to peace on earth has increased, and this is a source of deep concern to all honest people.

In its global strategy imperialism makes wide use of international Zionism as one of its shock detachments in the offensive against socialism and the national liberation movement, against the forces of peace and social progress.

The Israeli ruling elite and the leaders of international Zionism are responsible for political adventurism and such crimes as the occupation of Arab territories, the armed aggression against sovereign Lebanon, killing and injuring tens of thousands of peaceful civilians, the massacre in the Pal-

estinian Sabra and Chatila refugee camps, violence and torture in Ansar and other concentration camps.

These crimes have everywhere aroused the indignation of all genuinely democratic forces and organizations of various political orientation, religious circles, prominent government figures and all people of good will.

The reckless, adventurist policy of the Israeli Zionists brings trouble and suffering not only to the Arab peoples. It runs counter to the aims of establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and thus to the vital interests of Israel itself.

In spite of all that, Begin and his supporters are continuing their policy of expansion and political terror with all-round aid and support from US imperialism and international Zionism.

In its essence Zionism is extreme nationalism, chauvinism and racial intolerance; it is justification of territorial seizures and annexation and armed adventurism; it is a cult of political arbitrariness and impunity; it is demagogy and ideological sabotage, sordid manoeuvres and perfidy.

Zionism as a form of racism and the policy of the Israeli government vis-à-vis the Arab peoples have been repeatedly condemned in the decisions of the United Nations Organization.

We know that the Western mass media, including the Zionist propaganda machine, daily slander the Soviet Union, its history and life today, and present its peaceful foreign policy in a distorted light. The nationalities policy of the CPSU is being falsified most crudely. The Zionist ringleaders claim the right to "defend" Soviet Jews in an effort to persuade world public opinion that there is a "Jewish question" in the USSR.

We vigorously protest against such fabrications. Socialist reality and the successes of our country in implementing the Leninist nationalities policy fully refute them.

Soviet Jews feel only contempt for the attempts of Zionist propaganda-mongers to interfere in their life, and angrily denounce the lies and slander invented about their socialist homeland. Jews who are citizens of the USSR are an inalienable part of the Soviet people.

As one multinational family we are building a new and splendid society—communism; we are fighting for peace and friendship among peoples and rebuffing any attempts to undermine the internationalist community of the Soviet people. We can only describe as absurd the attempts of the Zionist ideologists to depict any criticism of Zionism, any condemnation by the Soviet public of the aggressive policy of the ruling circles of Israel as a "manifestation of anti-Semitism". It is common knowledge that Soviet people are true internationalists and resolutely reject any form of chauvinism, including Zionism and anti-Semitism.

Our reason and conscience compel us to address this Appeal to all Soviet citizens.

We call on workers, collective farmers and intellectuals to take an active part in the political exposure of Zionism and firmly rebuff its intrigues.

We call on social scientists to intensify their research to provide substantiated criticism of the reactionary essence of the ideology and the aggressive nature of the political practice of Zionism.

We call on men of letters, artists and journalists to reveal still more fully in their works and state-

ments the anti-popular and anti-human nature of the subversive propaganda and policy of Zionism.

With the object of coordinating our efforts we propose that a voluntary organization, the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, be set up and call upon Soviet citizens of all nationalities to take an active part in its work.

This will make it possible to wage a more resolute struggle against the ideology and political practice of Zionism, the struggle for social progress and peace on earth.

Colonel-General *David DRAGUNSKY*, twice Hero of the Soviet Union;
Academician *Martin KABACHNIK*, Hero of Socialist Labour, Winner of the Lenin and State prizes;
Genrikh GOFMAN, Member of the USSR Writers' Union, Hero of the Soviet Union;
Professor *Samuil ZIVS*, Doctor of Law, Merited Worker in Science of the Russian Federation;
Boris SHEININ, Member of the USSR Film-Makers' Union;
Professor *Grigory BONDAREVSKY*, Doctor of History, Merited Worker in Science of the Russian Federation;
Professor *Genrikh ZIMANAS*, Doctor of Philosophy;
Yuri KOLESNIKOV, Member of the USSR Writers' Union.

"Pravda", April 1, 1983

When I and my fellow villagers read in *Pravda* the Appeal of the initiating group on the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, all of us said we wanted to take an active part in its work. We regard it as our duty to fight in every way against the intrigues of the leaders of international Zionism aimed at presenting in gloomy colours the life of Jews in Soviet society. There is nothing new about these intrigues, and they have more than once been rebuffed. And they will be rebuffed now as well. Only political adventurers can cast slurs upon reality and discredit our achievements. It is our duty to fight against them.

There are 1,200 of us living on the territory of our collective farm, and of this number 250 are Jews. None of them, myself included, have ever regarded themselves as being discriminated against. We enjoy equal rights with all who work in our collective, which includes people of 16 nationalities.

I myself have been repeatedly elected a deputy to the local, district and Supreme soviets of Byelorussia of different convocations. For more than two decades now the collective farmers have elect-

ed me unanimously, at general meetings, chairman of the collective farm. I try to justify their confidence by doing my job conscientiously, and honest work is the main criterion of human dignity in our socialist society.

Yevgeni LIVSHITS, Chairman
Gastello Collective Farm
Minsk Region
Byelorussia

During the Second World War, as a Soviet Army officer, I fought against Hitlerite fascists and saw with my own eyes how cold-bloodedly and systematically they exterminated peaceful civilians. Now the whole world has witnessed the mass killings of peaceful Arab civilians by the Israeli aggressors aided by US imperialism and international Zionism.

I lost many friends in the war, and among them many were Jews. They were killed by fascists. Two years ago I lost a dear friend, Majeed abu-Sharar, head of the information department of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He was assassinated by Zionists in Rome. For a long time I have not heard from other Lebanese and Palestinian acquaintances of mine whom I had met in Lebanon and Moscow. Perhaps they had been killed during Israel's aggression against Lebanon or the carnage in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Chatila.

Zionism, which is ever more active, threatens peace in the Middle East. I support those who unite voluntarily in the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, and I am ready to fight together with them against Zionism. In my books

and television and radio appearances I will expose the anti-popular, anti-humane essence of the ideology and policy of Zionism.

Seyitniyaz ATAYEV, writer
Vice-Chairman
Turkmenian Committee of
Solidarity with the Countries of Asia
and Africa

As a Tajik saying goes, "You won't blot out the sun with a flap of your robe". I would like to tell this to those who, taking a Zionist position, are trying to besmirch Soviet reality and thus divert the attention of the world public from their dirty and bloody deeds. However, it is not enough to know this. There is need for vigorous actions to unmask the Zionist ideologists and to show the inhuman face of Zionism to the whole world.

I therefore support the Appeal of the initiating group, published in *Pravda,* calling for the formation of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. It is a timely proposal: the need for such a committee is dictated by the entire course of events in the Middle East, by every step of the leaders of international Zionism who have decided that they can do whatever they want to. The world had witnessed before this cult of permissiveness which allegedly gives one people the right to invade other peoples' lands and plunder and kill with impunity. That is precisely why Zionism is dangerous not only in one limited region of the planet.

I say this on behalf of all of us here who work at the Tajik textile machinery plant, and there are more than 20 nationalities among us—Tajiks, Uzbeks, Russians, Ukrainians, Jews, Tatars, Ger-

mans and others. We have neither a "Jewish" nor a "Tajik" nor any other questions having to do with ethnic origin. Let Messrs Zionists take note of this.

Mirzokhamid KHAMIDOV, team leader
Tajik textile machinery plant
Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan

Before writing these lines I once again leafed through G. Zimanas's pamphlet *Zionism: Ideology and Practice.* There is the author's inscription in it: "To dear comrade E. Zeifas, a staunch anti-Zionist since youth."

It is not hard for me to imagine the kind of activities Zionists in the West are engaged in. I had seen them in action. It was in the latter half of the 1930s, in bourgeois Lithuania. I saw "Left" Zionists at close range. They urged the Jewish working people not to take part in the struggle against fascism. They acted as scabs during workers' strikes. They considered that Jewish working people should not fight together with Lithuanian working people for their rights.

I also remember very well extreme Right Zionists (they are the kind that hold power in Israel today). They wore brown shirts then, and often marched to drum beat, brandishing long sticks. They openly beat up Jews who were anti-Zionists. All this was not just misdeeds carried out by some individuals or even groups. It was a norm of conduct, the practice of Zionism.

But Jewish working people fought actively against fascism side by side with Lithuanians, under the leadership of the Communist Party of

Lithuania. I also took part in that struggle. I have always regarded the Zionists, and I regard them now, as enemies of the Jews, and I have always been, and am today, against those who identify Zionists with Jews. This is done either by Zionists themselves or by anti-Semites. And I want to add that, as experience has shown, the Jewish question can only be solved by socialism.

I support the proposal to set up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, because I know that the Zionists have not changed and one must fight them, because Zionism is in a dangerous collusion with the reactionary forces throughout the world, with the US imperialists above all.

Eliosius ZEIFAS, Deputy Editor-in-Chief
Yaunimo griatos (a Latvian-language magazine)
Merited Journalist of Lithuania

In its Appeal on the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion the initiating group has correctly exposed the attempts of Zionist leaders to misappropriate the name of "defenders" of Soviet Jews. Their policy is clear: by spreading lies and slander against our Soviet motherland they are trying to divert the attention of the world public from the crimes they are committing in the Middle East. I say most emphatically that there is no "Jewish question" in our country, where a person's worth is judged by his capabilities.

I head the department of material balances and plan distribution of the State Planning Committee of Uzbekistan. In this capacity I come across many

people, including Jews holding important posts in the Council of Ministers of our republic and ministries and government agencies and heading big organizations and industrial enterprises. I can say with all responsibility that Soviet Jews live the life of equal full-fledged citizens and need no protection from Zionists. I think that the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion will help rebuff the intrigues of Zionism.

Semyon ARONOV, Collegium Member
State Planning Committee of Uzbekistan
Merited Economist of Uzbekistan

The proposal for setting up, as a voluntary organization, an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion is a very timely one.

The Soviet people paid dearly for peace, for their freedom and independence in the years of the struggle against fascism. People of my generation still remember very well the war years and the fascists' concentration camps in Oswiecim (Auschwitz), Buchenwald and Maidanek. How many people of different nationalities were tortured to death and mutilated in these infernal camps! These horrors have been repeated in our times in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Chatila, when the Israeli Zionists arranged the slaughter of defenceless Palestinians—old people, women and children.

Today Zionism has become one of the shock forces of imperialism in stoking up tension in the world. Doing what it is told by its masters, international Zionism is waging a struggle against the

peaceful policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. It even tries to interfere in our internal affairs, claming that the "Jewish question" exists in the USSR.

I resolutely protest against these Zionist inventions, totally reject Zionist propagandists' attempts to interfere in the life of my brothers-Jews and wrathfully condemn the lies and slander against my socialist motherland.

I am a Dungan by nationality, a member of one of the small peoples living in the Soviet Union, and I can say, on the basis of my own experience, that there is no racial or national discrimination in the USSR. This holds true for the Jews as well. Just as the other fraternal peoples of our multinational Soviet motherland, Soviet Jews take part in all spheres of activity of the country, working in all sectors of the construction of communism.

Let the leaders of Zionism remember that the Soviet people will wage a resolute struggle against the ideology and practices of Zionism, whatever mask it may wear.

Dr. *Mikhail SUSHANLO,* Head
Oriental Studies Department
Academy of Sciences of Kirghizia

Recently it became known that nerve gases were used by the Israeli invaders in Arab territories which they occupy. This is one more link in the long chain of the Zionists' crimes.

It is high time that the ruling quarters in Tel Aviv realize that they will not remain unpunished for their deeds. The peoples of the world have long since seen through the fascist essence of such persons as Sharon, the butcher of Beirut. And it is

claimed that criticism of Zionism is anti-Semitism! There could be nothing more cynical than this. Being consistent internationalists, the Soviet people come out against the ideology and practice of Zionism which lead to genocide, oppression, the introduction of unjust rules and regulations, seizures and other unlawful acts. It is not the Jews, but the Zionists with their anti-human theory and practice who are condemned by all people of good will in the world.

It is precisely for this reason that I wholeheartedly support the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, an organization called upon to wage a resolute struggle against the ideology and practice of Zionism.

The Anti-Zionist Committee is being set up at a time when the situation in the Middle East has again been aggravated in the extreme. Encouraged by Washington, the Israeli Zionists are ready to fan the smoldering of a regional conflict until it threatens to engulf the whole world in flames. All those who cherish peace, justice and independence say a resolute "No" to these plans. Zionism must be stopped!

Academician *Viktor FANARDZHYAN,*
Vice-President
Academy of Sciences of Armenia

The appeal of public figures, prominent scientists and cultural workers on the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, which was carried by all the central newspapers, is an important document exposing the reactionary ideology of international Zionism manifested today in the Israeli invaders' crimes against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. Egged on by US im-

perialism, the aggressors are nurturing still bigger plans, plans for turning Lebanon into a military springboard against the national liberation movement in the Middle East and against the socialist countries, the Soviet Union in particular.

The Zionists are trying to belittle the achievements of socialism and to discredit the Soviet nationalities policy, which has united all the peoples of the USSR into a single close-knit family. Their absurd falsifications testify to their utter ignorance of life in our country.

I am a Uigur. The 120,000 my fellow countrymen living on the territory of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic make up less than one per cent of its 15 million-strong multinational population. But we have all conditions for the development of traditional branches of the economy, for the flourishing of our culture. Our republican Uigur Musical and Drama Theatre in Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan, is about half a century old. The republican publishing house puts out books by Uigur writers. Equal rights are enjoyed by members of other nations and nationalities (there are more than 100 of them in our republic)—Kazakhs, Russians, Jews, Ukrainians, Dungans, Koreans and others.

I warmly support the proposal for establishing an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. People of different nationalities must unite their efforts to foil the schemes of Zionism, which preaches racial intolerance, plans territorial conquests and tries to sow discord among the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Professor *Kuddus KUZHAMYAROV,*
composer
USSR State Prize winner
People's Artist of Kazakhstan

Do you remember how all progressive mankind was outraged by the mass extermination of Jews in the years of the Second World War?

In liberated Kiev I saw Baby Yar. In Vinnitsa and Berdichev I witnessed indescribable atrocities committed by retreating German troops against the Jewish population. More than forty years have passed since then, and today the Zionists brutalize the peaceful population of Palestine and Lebanon and are making preparations for provocative acts against Syria.

Therefore all those who cherish peace should speak out and voice their indignation against new provocations being prepared by Israel, by international Zionism and US imperialism. The Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, founded on the basis of voluntary participation, will carry out precisely these aims. I am confident that it will be an effective spokesman of the multinational Soviet people in the struggle against the aggressive intentions of the leaders of Israel and international Zionism. The peoples of the world should not forget the crimes of fascism; they should prevent new tragedies, new acts of genocide.

Nikolai KALADZE, Major-General (retd)
Chairman
Military-Scientific Society of Georgia

I am sixty years old, and I take pride in the fact that all my life has been indissolubly linked with the life of my country, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. I have never had any problems because of my Jewish nationality. Jews, Russians, Kirghiz, Lithuanians—we have always been equal in everything. We grew up and studied

together; we experienced joy and sorrow together; together we built socialism.

I am an art worker, and I know that genuine art is at all times and among all peoples universal and international. Soviet art owes its achievements to the great, mutually enriching friendship of peoples. The whole world knows the names of the ballerina Maya Plisetskaya, the actor Arkadi Raikin, the singers Leonid Utyosov and Mark Reizen, the sculptor Lev Kerbel and many other Soviet Jews, whose art blossomed under socialism. And therefore the attempts of the Zionists to interfere in our life, their lies and slander against our socialist motherland only evoke wrath and scorn.

Today we and our children who are educated in the spirit of internationalism, are ready to repulse the imperialists, Zionists and all those who try to sow national strife, to encroach upon the friendship of nations and to kindle the fire of war.

People of my generation, who were 18 years old in the grim year of 1941, know well the horrors of the war which was forced on us by fascism—a fiendish thing, an extreme manifestation of racism and nationalistic hatred. We thought then, seeing the atrocities committed by nazism, that they were the limit of abomination, barbarity and cruelty. And yet today, when the peoples of the world have done so much to promote peace on earth, these horrors are repeated by the Zionists, who, moreover, pose as defenders of justice, defenders of the rights of Soviet Jews.

I have been a member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union for forty years. Throughout my life I have experienced the invigorating feeling of comradeship, fraternity and friendship with all people of good will, and therefore I find it necessary to support the proposal for establishing an

Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. I am ready to take an active part in its work, and I am convinced that the Zionists will be brought before the court of history, the court of the peoples.

Alexander BOROV, art critic
Frunze
Kirghizia

We hate the ideology and adventurism of Zionism. I am convinced that not only we Soviet Jews are revolted by the actions of the Zionists. All upright people, people of good will, regardless of national and social origin, will agree that Zionism should be consistently exposed. I am proud that I and all members of my family are part of the Soviet people. We have always worked and will work honestly for the good of the Soviet people. And we need no "defence" on the part of the Zionists. What is really needed is defence of honest working people against the Zionists in Israel itself.

Agents of Zionism everywhere seek to penetrate into all sections of the population of different countries. We should resolutely counter their actions. I think that active anti-Zionist work should be conducted in various spheres of social life. I also consider that a public fund should be set up for combating Zionism and helping its victims. For the struggle against Zionism is also the struggle against war, for peace.

Vladimir KOTLER
Moscow

I heard with joy the news about the setting up of the Anti-Zionist Committee. An intensification

of the struggle against Zionism is long overdue. This evil wind puts out family hearths and ruins families. Just as dry wind destroys fertile soil, leaving behind desert, so Zionism destroys the soul of man, crippling his future. On the conscience of the Zionists are thousands of wrecked lives, the tears and grief of those who have left the Soviet Union. Among them are my father, mother and two brothers. They've now understood, but at what cost. I cannot read their letters without feeling a lump in my throat.

If a branch of the Anti-Zionist Committee is opened in Odessa, I will gladly help it in its work.

I hope the Committee's activity will promote peace and friendship among peoples.

Matvei FINKEL, a pensioner
Odessa
Ukraine

Not a single day passes without news of atrocities perpetrated by the Israeli aggressors on the Arab territories occupied by them. Not long ago I read in a newspaper about cases of mass poisoning of Arabs living on the Western bank of the Jordan River. Hundreds of people poisoned with nerve agents were hospitalized. The Zionists are not squeamish about the means they use in evicting Arabs from their ancestral land. They are bent on exterminating the Palestinian people. Many sinister plans are devised by the Zionist leaders, but I am confident that people of good will, the Soviet people included, will frustrate these plans. The establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion will make it possible to wage the strug-

gle against the Zionists' criminal policy more resolutely and purposefully.

Tursunoi AKHUNOVA
Hero of Socialist Labour
Lenin Prize winner

It is one of the gravest crimes against humanity to try to deprive people of their homeland. This is precisely what the Israeli Zionists are trying to do. There is no other explanation for the outrages committed against the long-suffering people of Palestine.

We in the Soviet Union feel deeply about the suffering of the Arabs being driven out of their homeland to make room for the invaders' military settlements. Zionism in any guise brings only anguish and grief to people.

And, of course, like any form of racism, Zionism is pervaded with anti-communism, with hatred for our country and its achievements. On my trips abroad I had witnessed provocations carried out by Zionist thugs against representatives of the Land of the Soviets. They are indifferent to the art of those representing our multinational Soviet culture, to the grace and beauty of our ballerinas, to the values of our culture which have become the possession of the entire progressive mankind. They are driven to mean actions by their blind hatred for everything which can unite people of different nationalities and which can become a bridge of genuine friendship among nations.

It is often said that the Estonian peasant is of calm disposition, that he is sober-minded and somewhat sluggish. Perhaps this is so. But I do not know a single person on our collective farm, which has about 400 members and which I have headed for two decades now, who is apathetic with regard

to the crimes of Zionism and its imperialist patrons, and who does not support the wise foreign policy of the Soviet state. Therefore I declare with all responsibility that our farmers welcome the creation of a voluntary organization—the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion—and that they will take an active part, as true internationalists, in its work.

Hundo VIILU, Chairman
Oitseng (Dawn) Collective Farm
Rakvere District
Estonia

History shows that imperialism constantly resorts to the reactionary nationalistic conceptions of Zionism in its crimes against peace and social progress. This weapon for crushing the finest aspirations of many peoples has been in the arsenal of imperialism since the end of the last century, when Zionism, which just emerged, began to lay claims to the role of its ideological and political instrument.

History also knows a cruel paradox: in the years of the Second World War some prominent Zionist leaders concluded a deal with the fascists. This alliance came into being against the background of death camps in whose ovens, together with members of the peoples declared by the fascists to be "inferior", were incinerated members of a people who, as the Zionists claim, are the "elect of God". Who can say that there is an essential difference between the fascists' crematoriums and the phosphorus bombs exploded in Lebanon? Who will draw a line between Baby Yar in the Ukraine and Oswiecim and Maidanek in Poland, and the Sabra and Chatila camps in Lebanon?

The conflagration in the Middle East, being fanned by the Israeli Zionists with the connivance

of the ruling circles of the United States, can singe the whole world. To prevent this, there is need for purposeful actions on the part of the forces actively coming out against international Zionism, against racism in all its manifestations. I therefore think that the proposal for setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion is an extremely timely one. I shall regard it as an honour to take part in the work of this voluntary organization. I am convinced that I can say the same on behalf of the entire intelligentsia of Tajikistan.

Academician *Bakhodur ISKANDAROV*
Director
History Institute
Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan

Life itself has shown that one can expect the most atrocious crimes from the Zionists. Possessed with the maniacal idea of establishing the domination of Israel in the Middle East, they carry out hostilities against Arab states, occupy their territories, evict Arabs from their lands and cynically ignore the resolutions of the United Nations. The Israeli authorities are establishing more and more Jewish settlements on occupied territories, conducting mass arrests, torturing prisoners and shooting down demonstrators. One shudders when one recalls the massacre in the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Chatila. The blood and suffering of innocent people are on the conscience of both the Zionists and the US leaders. For without American assistance Israel would be unable to conduct provocations against the peoples of the Middle East and to defy world public opinion. At present the Israeli aggressors are preparing for new crimes. I have in mind Israel's military preparations near the Syrian borders. Having occupied the south of Lebanon, the

Zionist military are speedily turning it into a staging area for extending aggression against Arab countries, above all Syria. This is also evidenced by the large-scale military preparations of the Zionists in the Bekaa Valley. In this alarming situation the proposal of the initiating group for organizing an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion is highly timely. This public body will make it possible to coordinate the efforts of Soviet people in their struggle against Zionism, which threatens world peace.

Professor *Rafael KATSENOVICH,*
D. Sc. (Medicine)
Tashkent Medical Institute

As a Soviet citizen, a mother and an actress I am outraged by the dirty deeds of the Zionist criminals in the Middle East. For isn't it a crime to occupy Arab lands and kill thousands of civilians, including women, children and old people? Not only the ruling quarters in Israel but also US imperialism and international Zionism standing behind it must be held responsible for these crimes.

I am a happy woman. I have happy children. There is a peaceful, cloudless sky above us. But I take to heart the grief and anxiety of Arab women who pray daily that the sky above their children should not splinter into thousands of deadly fragments because of the explosion of American bombs dropped from Israeli planes.

This grief is understood by millions of Soviet people. Today many of them are joining the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion so that they can wage still more effectively and reso-

lutely the struggle against the pernicious ideology and piratic policy of Zionism, for a peaceful sky over the Middle East.

My colleagues and I approve of the setting up of the Anti-Zionist Committee. We will actively assist it in its work.

Mayagozel AIMEDOVA
People's Artist of Turkmenia
USSR State Prize winner

International Zionism is assigned an important role in the ferocious psychological war against our country waged by the aggressive forces of imperialism. The main characteristics of modern Zionism are militant chauvinism, rabid nationalism, anti-communism and anti-Sovietism. The struggle against them must be waged, not sporadically, but seriously, methodically and consistently.

The proposal of a group of Soviet citizens to set up an Anti-Zionist Committee is not only a correct, but also a very timely and important political move.

Like any new organization, it will need the participation in its work of energetic and competent young people capable of making a dialectically correct analysis of the historical process and having a profound knowledge of Marxism-Leninism as the scientific ideology of the working class. This ideology has been developing in indissoluble connection with the course of the liberation struggle and the growth of the international communist and working-class movement.

Possessing sufficient knowledge and wishing to be useful to the committee, I ask for permission

to take an active part in the work of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Aleksei ALBOV, a student
Leningrad

The atrocities committed by the Zionist aggressors in Lebanon and the striving of the ruling circles of Israel to secure the "final solution" of the Palestinian problem bring back to mind the crimes of the nazis in the years of the Second World War. I write this with an aching heart. For all my relatives perished in that war unleashed by the Hitlerites.

In the summer of 1944, when our troops were liberating Byelorussia and Lithuania, we met Jews who had been saved by local people at the risk of their own lives.

When several Jews who were thus saved were brought to General Yakov Kreizer, Hero of the Soviet Union, Commander of the 51st Army, in the area of the Lithuanian city of Siauliai, he said to them in Yiddish: "Now you will live. The nightmare of fascist occupation is over."

During the Second World War the Soviet Army saved millions of people from enslavement by the fascists and saved hundreds of thousands of Jews from genocide, from physical destruction.

Wherever the Soviet soldier went, he brought with him freedom and life. I take pride in the fact that I fought in the war as an officer of the Soviet Army, that in its ranks I hailed the victory in the unforgettable spring of 1945.

But this is not all. For Hitler intended to establish the world domination of the fascist Reich, to occupy the Middle East and North Africa. By defeating fascist Germany the Soviet Army saved the

peoples of these regions from Hitler's "new order", saved the Jews of Palestine from the "final solution". This is remembered by honest people in Israel.

But this is not remembered by the Zionist rulers, who viciously slander our country. By their reckless policy they make Israel absolutely dependent on the United States and endanger its very existence.

We Soviet people come out against Zionist barbarity. We are for peace in the world, including the Middle East. We are for a peaceful Israel, for the establishment of an independent Palestinian Arab state, for the happy future of the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. That is why we warmly support the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee.

Solomonas KANCEDIKAS, Lieutenant-Colonel (retd)
Vilnius
Lithuania

I know what war is. For me it ended on the western borders of Poland. I saw with my own eyes Baby Yar and prisoners of Maidanek, among whom many were Jews. Now I find the atrocities committed by the nazis and Zionists similar in their monstrous cruelty and cynicism.

I am a Russian. Since childhood I have lived in Kazakhstan, one of the fifteen constituent republics of the Soviet Union. Feelings of national strife are alien to residents in Kazakhstan, where members of more than a hundred nations and nationalities live.

People of different nationalities have been my friends since childhood. Among my school friends

were Batu Rakhmatullin, a Tatar, Rimma Zitner, a Lett, and Arkadi Fum, a Jew. At the front, when I commanded the medical platoon of a rifle battalion, my aidmen were Taras Kislyak, a Ukrainian, Kadyr Akhmetov, a Kazakh, and Nikolai Polovinkin, a Russian. In the Gorky Literary Institute in Moscow, where I studied after the war, I found myself among young men and women from different republics of our country. During the past 30 years I have worked in a close-knit multinational collective—the Union of Writers of Kazakhstan.

In school, at the institute, at the front and in the literary milieu I got accustomed to evaluating people, as they evaluate me, according to talent, ability, thoughtfulness, but never according to ethnic or national origin.

For me, a war veteran and writer, the enemies of peace, culture and friendship among nations have one face—the face of an enemy. The leaders of fascism were condemned by an international tribunal. The hour of retribution will also come for the Zionist leaders. And I will support in every way the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, which is timely founded and is called upon to coordinate the struggle of the Soviet people against criminal Zionist ideology.

Leonid KRIVOSHCHEKOV, Board Secretary
Union of Writers of Kazakhstan

Together with all Soviet people, including citizens of Jewish nationality, I approve of and support the founding of the Anti-Zionist Committee. Fascism, racism and Zionism are weapons in the

imperialists' struggle against the revolutionary movement of the peoples for freedom and national progress.

German imperialism used fascism; South African imperialism uses racism; US imperialism uses both racism and Zionism. US imperialism has chosen, as an instrument of its policy, the State of Israel, where power has been seized by the Zionists, real bandits of the Begin type who are prepared to commit any crime.

I shall contribute to the work of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion as much as possible.

Z. GLEZER, a veteran worker
Volgograd

On the TV screen and in photographs in newspapers I see terrible pictures of crimes committed by the Zionists. The Israeli invaders have deprived the Palestinians of their homeland, turning millions of people into homeless refugees. Thousands upon thousands of people killed, maimed and poisoned by chemical weapons—such is the result of the activities of international Zionism.

I do not identify the Zionists with the Jews, just as I did not identify the nazis with the Germans. But I am convinced that Zionism and nazism are kindred phenomena, because I remember well the atrocities committed by the fascist invaders in the Ukraine, where they exterminated both Ukrainians and Jews.

I was twelve years old when in September 1941, on the outskirts of our Lyubar, the fascists shot down 2,000 Jews—old people, women and

children. It was racism in action, a product of nazi ideology.

I remember seeing, in one of the columns, our teacher Ginda Kofman. She cried, cursing the fascists, and then began to sing the *Internationale.* An hour later she was shot down and buried on the outskirts of Lyubar.

One just cannot live calmly knowing that atrocities are being committed by the new racists on Arab land. We believe the wrathful word of millions of people can do much. It is our duty to condemn Zionism, this ideology which is hostile to all upright people on our planet, and therefore I support those who call for the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Vladimir DERKACH, Manager
Lyubar Inter-Collective Farm
Livestock Breeding Complex
Zhitomir Region
Ukraine

It was with great enthusiasm that we have learned about the decision to set up an Anti-Zionist Committee.

We love our homeland and are devoted to it and hate all forces that are hostile to it, including Zionism.

Our parents belonged to large poor Jewish families. They had never had a chance to receive an education, although they had wanted to. Thanks to Soviet power we, their children, received everything and worked in fields of our choice.

Now we are both retired and draw a pension, which is ensured to us by our state. But as far as possible we continue to take part in public activities in the cultural field.

If you think that we can be of use, we are ready to serve the common cause.

I. M. and N. M. DIMENTMAN,
pensioners
Leningrad

Blood is being shed and people, for the most part peaceful civilians, women and children, are being killed on occupied Arab lands. Not a single honest person can remain indifferent towards the evil deeds committed by the Israeli military to the accompaniment of Washington's calls for a "crusade" against the USSR. It has long since been clear that the more reactionary circles in the United States have turned Zionism into one of its shock detachments in the struggle against socialism and national liberation movements.

No one will be deceived today by allegations to the effect that our opposition to Israeli genocide and Israel's policy in the Middle East is a manifestation of "anti-Semitism". We are internationalists who reject all forms of chauvinism. That is precisely why we come out against Zionism, against the oppression of one people by another.

The establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion as a voluntary organization will make it possible to broaden the struggle against the fascist practices of Zionism, for peace on our planet. I declare on behalf of my colleagues, writers of Armenia, that we support the formation of the committee.

Perch ZAITUNTSYAN, Secretary
Union of Writers of Armenia

Our team got together and discussed the Appeal of the initiating group of workers in science, the arts and culture during a lunch break. "Right," my teammates said. "It's necessary to unite forces against Zionism."

Washington has launched a psychological war against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and is set on attaining nuclear superiority. This pernicious policy is pursued with the assistance of international Zionism, this enemy of peace and progress, an obedient tool of imperialism. In their attempt to set the peoples of different countries against the Soviet Union, Zionist propagandists distort the essence of the Soviet Union's policy of peace and talk about the demise of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union. But this is a lie. For example, Birobidzhan, the centre of the Jewish Autonomous Region, has a Jewish theatre and a House of Culture in which evenings of Jewish music are regularly held, and publishes textbooks in Yiddish. The main street of the city bears the name of the classic of Yiddish literature, Shalom Aleichem.

Equally false are the allegations that Jews in the USSR have limited rights. The USSR Constitution guarantees equal rights to all citizens. I and my comrades live in modern flats with all amenities and receive free medical care; our children go to the same schools with Russians, Ukrainians and Byelorussians and enter higher and specialized secondary schools on equal terms. I, for instance, have been elected a member of the Bureau of the Birobidzhan City Party Committee, a member of the Khabarovsk Territorial Committee of the CPSU, and a member of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

All attempts to sow strife among nations must be rebuffed. This is a sacred duty not only of pro-

gressive public leaders, politicians, journalists and workers in literature and the arts, but also of all upright people. That is why I and my workmates support the proposal for establishing an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Yelena ARNAPOLINA, cutter
Birobidzhan hosiery factory
Member of the All-Union Central
Committee of Trade Unions

Peace is a great and invaluable treasure of the entire mankind. Therefore human conscience cannot but be disturbed by the flames of war kindled by the forces of imperialism in different parts of the world.

Mankind wrathfully condemns the crimes committed by the Israeli aggressors on Arab land. I remember my trip to the then peaceful Lebanon with the beautiful city of Beirut on the coast of the blue Mediterranean Sea. And I could not believe my eyes when I saw, on the TV screen, this city in ruins and homeless and mutilated people, old folk and children in its ash-covered streets. Having discarded their mask of hypocricy, the modern brigands are destroying an ancient civilization. But the aggressors will not escape retribution. The entire peace-loving world public calls for struggle in defence of the right cause of the Arabs. Hence the exceptional importance of the idea of establishing in our peaceful country an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. Its resolute voice will be heard, and I have no doubt that it will demonstrate to the whole world the will of Soviet people to curb the Zionist aggressors who are committing outrages with the support and en-

couragement of the imperialist circles of the United States.

Shukurbek BEISHENALIYEV, writer
Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of Kirghizia, Republican State Prize winner
Chairman of the Kirghiz Society
for Friendship and Cultural Relations
with Foreign Countries

"Our reason and conscience compel us"—these fine words are contained in the Appeal to all Soviet citizens by the initiators for the establishment of a voluntary organization, an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. I consider that the idea of creating such a committee is an exceptionally timely one. Crude slander against the Soviet Union is part of the ideology and political practice of Zionism. Lies are fabricated in an attempt to convince world public opinion that a "Jewish question" exists in the USSR.

But the Zionists are armed not only with slander. As a physician I was shocked by the report that 1,380 Palestinians had been hospitalized as a result of the use of poisonous chemical agents by the Zionists. External symptoms include difficult breathing, vomiting and the appearance of dark-blue blotches on the skin. But neurologists know that poison gases have the strongest effect on the nervous system and can paralyze it. This is inhuman. Such is the outcome when the man-hating ideology of Zionism merges with its practice.

In such conditions it is necessary to mobilize the efforts of all upright people for a resolute struggle against Zionism.

Ignati ANTONOV, Director
Byelorussian Research Institute
of Neurology, Neurosurgery
and Physiotherapy
Corresponding Member of the USSR
Academy of Medical Sciences, Merited
Worker in Science of Byelorussia

I am convinced that all Soviet people welcome the idea of setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. Its noble aim is to combat the ideology and practice of Zionism and promote social progress and peace on earth.

In the summer of 1944 I saw the Maidanek death camp. Its soil was drenched in blood and covered by human ashes. Those of the inmates who had survived lay on plank-beds in terrible rags. They were so weak that many of them died in the arms of soldiers who tried to save them.

In the spring of 1947, when those who had died in Maidanek were being reburied, many funeral processions could be seen in the streets of Lublin. Hundreds of coffins were carried by people who bitterly wept.

Today Zionists are treading in the steps of the fascist butchers cursed by mankind. They hypocritically slander the Soviet Union, propagating the lie about the "Jewish question".

Let the Zionists know that Jews have always been, are and will be full-fledged citizens of our motherland.

Stanislav LEVITSKY
Veteran of Great Patriotic War (1941-1945)
Kishinev
Moldavia

I am 23 years old. Recently I graduated from the Tallinn technical college and now I work as an engineer in the Prompribor instrument making association. My life is only beginning. I have no doubt that the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion will help further rally the country's young people in the struggle against the ideology and political practice of Zionism. It is for us young people to build the future, and we want to live and work in conditions of peace and social justice.

As a component part of the Soviet youth movement, Jewish young men and women exert great efforts to strengthen peace on earth and wage an active struggle against imperialism, racism and Zionism in all their manifestations. Like all Soviet people, the young citizens of Jewish nationality of the USSR cherish peace. Our country paid a tremendous price for it: 20 million Soviet people gave their lives for the sake of victory over fascism, the deadly enemy of mankind. Coming out against Zionism, we want to prevent a repetition of the horrors of the Second World War. And for the sake of this we will take part in the work of the Anti-Zionist Committee.

Vladimir GUREVICH, engineer
Estonia

Political adventurism, the occupation of Arab territories, the aggression against Lebanon, tens of thousands of people killed and wounded, the bloody massacre in the Sabra and Chatila camps, violence and tortures in Ansar and other concentration camps—all these crimes of recent years have been committed by Israel's ruling elite with the support of international Zionism and US imperialism. These crimes cannot leave anyone indifferent.

Zionism inflicts misery not only on the Arabs. It is an enemy of all people, of any nationality, including Jews, an enemy of all who want to live in peace and friendship with others. Therefore I regard as timely and necessary the establishment in the Soviet Union of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, which will certainly make its contribution to the struggle against the ideology and political practice of Zionism, for social progress and peace on earth.

Statesmen and public figures, scientists and artists, workers and farmers of Soviet Turkmenia will take an active part in the work of this progressive public organization.

Academician *Orazgeldy*
OBEZGELDIYEV, Chairman
Supreme Soviet of Turkmenia
Vice-President
Academy of Sciences of Turkmenia

The world has been shocked by the monstrous crimes perpetrated by the Israeli aggressors in the Middle East. It would seem, after all these atrocities committed by the ruthless invaders, who mercilessly carried out genocide and destroyed and burned everything that stood in their way, Israel would calm down a little and realize the senselessness of its barbaric policy. But the ruling elite

of the State of Israel and international Zionism continue, with the connivance of the US Administration, to draw up new criminal plans aimed against the Arabs.

Upright people the world over cannot but be disturbed and alarmed by the new military preparations of the Zionists which pose a threat to world peace. That is why, in this complex and tense situation, we Soviet people sincerely support the idea of establishing a voluntary organization—an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. I expect there will be a new angry outcry from the Zionist camp against the Soviet Union because of this. Well, such howls will not disturb us. We will try to do everything to prevent a repetition of the tragedy of Sabra and Chatila, to prevent territorial seizures, annexations and armed gambles by Israel.

Ruben SHIMSHILASHVILI, Cand. Sc. (Economics)
Tbilisi
Georgia

As a worker and a deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic I regard as timely the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee. Such is also the opinion of the other workers at our plant, the Riga furniture-making association, the republic's largest.

Our staff includes dozens of engineers and experienced furniture-makers of Jewish nationality. Each is rewarded according to work. No Western propaganda, nothing that the Zionist circles do can undermine the friendship of the peoples of our country, which has withstood many trials.

I was born in eastern Latvia, and I know how

poor and downtrodden many Jewish families were prior to the restoration of Soviet government in the republic, how brutally Jews were exterminated by the Hitlerites and their nationalist henchmen.

Today Begin and the leadership of Israel are applying similar methods of genocide against the Arab population of Palestine. The Zionists' policy is aimed at instigating national strife and spreading the idea of the national exclusiveness of some people and the rightlessness of others. Constant conflicts with neighbouring Arab states, readiness to do as bidden by its American masters and to the detriment of its own interests are characteristic features of the policy of Israel.

Endless wars and unavoidable loss of human lives are not in the interests of the working people of this state. There can be no peace in the region without consideration for the legitimate rights of all the peoples of the Middle East. The truth about Zionism will be disseminated among all peoples by the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Peter VILMAN, joiner
Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of Latvia
Hero of Socialist Labour

I have four children and seven grandchildren, and I strongly support the proposal for setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee. It is correctly pointed out in the Appeal that in its global strategy imperialism uses international Zionism as one of its shock detachments in the offensive against socialism and the national liberation movement, against the forces of peace and social progress.

We women of the Jewish Autonomous Region are alarmed by the attempts of US imperialism, the aggressive circles of NATO and the leaders of Israel to halt the process of détente. The leadership of Israel has become a bearer of evil, violence and brutality. The Israeli aggressors are the destroyers of Lebanese towns, villages and Palestinian refugee camps, the killers of thousands of innocent Arabs. They are fanning the fire of war.

The bourgeois media and Zionist propaganda, a long-time mouthpiece of imperialism, are spreading lies and slander against the Soviet Union and its peaceful policy. The Soviet nationalities policy is particularly crudely falsified. Posing as "defenders" of Soviet Jews, the Zionists slanderously allege that there is anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. I resent these inventions of international Zionism. I have spoken about our Soviet reality, about our sincere love for our motherland, the Soviet Union, about our life and work at sessions of the Soviet Women's Committee.

Yefim Koisman, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, Isaak Prishkolnik, Merited Teacher of the RSFSR, former director of a secondary school, Nadezhda Raskina, mother of eleven children and I have sent letters to US President Reagan condemning his aggressive policy.

Remarkable people work on our Zavety Ilyicha collective farm. Members of 14 nationalities live as a single family. None of them wants war, and every year they remit part of their earnings to the Soviet Peace Fund. Conscientious work is highly valued by the Soviet state: 120 members of our collective farm have been awarded government decorations. Having worked for 30 years on the collective farm as a vegetable grower, I have been presented with the Order of Lenin and the Badge of

Honour Order. Since 1968 I have been repeatedly elected to the Soviet Women's Committee. I am happy that my work and my social activities are useful to my country.

Feiga FAIMAN, vegetable grower
Zavety Ilyicha Collective Farm
Member of the Soviet Women's Committee

I have received the news about the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion with great satisfaction. The theory and practice of Zionism are a weapon in the hands of the Israeli racists, a weapon directed against the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people, against the international communist and working-class movement.

The lives of thousands of innocent people lie on the conscience of Zionist leaders. The Israeli people themselves are among their victims. Resorting to the myth about the Jews being "God's chosen people", the current leaders of Israel have succeeded in duping a considerable part of its population, turning the Jewish youth of their state into fighters for an unjust cause and inculcating anti-human ideas in them.

That is why the creation of the Anti-Zionist Committee is a highly timely undertaking. The call for an all-out struggle against pernicious Zionist ideology contained in the Appeal of the initiating group cannot but meet a positive response from all people of good will. It is particularly relevant today, when the tension in the Middle East has reached a dangerous level and when Israel's interventionist troops, enjoying the connivance and sup-

port of US imperialism, trample over the land of independent Lebanon and threaten other Arab countries.

Zionism must be stopped!

Professor *Boris DUNAIVITSER,* D. Sc. (Medicine)
Yerevan
Armenia

Even now, four decades later, I shudder at the memory of the terrible things we saw in Maidanek, a death camp near the Polish city of Lublin. Poles, Jews, Ukrainians and people of other nationalities were mercilessly, brutally and methodically exterminated there by the fascists. If I, a general of the Soviet Army who fought in Stalingrad and took part in the storming of Berlin, were told at that time that such things could happen again, I would never believe it.

Is it for nothing that rivers of human blood were shed? Is it for nothing that my father, who was tortured to death, and my brother laid down their lives in that war? Is it for nothing that my sister's and my second brother's blood was shed? It is hard to believe that the horrors of the past war have taught some people nothing. Today the spectre of a new, even more monstrous war, haunts the world. Imperialism is getting ready an abyss into which it is prepared, for the sake of its interests, to push whole nations. And imperialism has its shock column, which is already now methodically destroying a whole people. The name of this column is Zionism.

How can one reconcile oneself to what is now being committed by the Israeli aggressors on the

land of tormented Lebanon? The ruins of Sabra and Chatila recall to mind the days of Hitler's atrocities.

Wrath and indignation are the feelings which are experienced by Soviet people—Russians and Ukrainians, Jews and Georgians, Lithuanians and Estonians, Kirghiz and Kazakhs—when they learn about the Zionists' new crimes. And let no one in the world have doubts about our unanimity on this matter.

The Soviet people are building a peaceful, better society; all our efforts are aimed at this. We realize full well that we shall be able to enjoy the fruits of our labour only in conditions of peace, and for this reason we unanimously support the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Lieutenant-General *Matvei VAINRUB*
Hero of the Soviet Union
Kiev
Ukraine

Our Institute of Organic Synthesis of the Academy of Sciences of Latvia was founded by Solomon Giller, an outstanding chemist who in the course of 18 years, until his death in 1975, headed the development of new physiologically active compounds and medical preparations, including the anti-cancer drug *ftorafur* now used in many countries.

The great work of Academician Solomon Giller is continued by his students and colleagues. Among them are not only Letts, but scientists of other nationalities, including 49 Jews. We are a single family of like-minded people devoted to the cause

of promoting scientific progress, of helping those who suffer from serious illnesses. The ideology of Zionism, which preaches strife among peoples and genocide against the Arab people of Palestine, is alien to us. We do not doubt that among the Jewish population of Israel itself there are many people who condemn the dead-end policy of Begin and the acts of aggression against neighbouring Arab states.

Zionism means war. In the Middle East bloodshed has continued for dozens of years now. That is why we welcome the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, which is called upon to expose the policies of the ruling circles of Israel, who, in order to please their American patrons, have turned their country into a policeman in the Middle East.

Constructive work, the right of every people to self-determination and a peaceful future are ideals for which all the peoples of the planet should fight actively.

Dr. *Gunnar DUBURS,* Deputy Director
Institute of Organic Synthesis
Academy of Science of Latvia

For Soviet people, who lost more than 20 million fellow countrymen in the years of the Great Patriotic War, the word "peace" means a great deal. We know at what price peace was won, and that is why we greet with joy the 38th peaceful spring since the end of the Second World War.

It would seem that the war ought to have taught much not only those who had unleashed it. Regrettably, however, there are still forces in the world which want war. Zionism is one of them. Behind it stand the US imperialists. Israeli pilots dropped

US-made bombs on Lebanon. Having received tacit consent from the United States, Israeli cutthroats arranged the carnage in Palestinian refugee camps. Kindling the fire of war on the planet, the Zionists hope that they will remain unpunished. But mankind will never forgive them their crimes.

While carrying out their evil deeds the Zionists talk loudly about "suppression" of Jews in the USSR. Let them come to our plant and see for themselves that among us are workers of different nationalities, including Jews, who enjoy respect and prestige. I would like to say, on behalf of our workers, that we have one homeland, the Soviet Union, and that we do not permit discrimination against anyone. I warmly support the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion and hope that its voice will be heard in different parts of the world.

Ivan MORAR, a worker
Kishinev Tractor Plant
Deputy to the Supreme
Soviet of Moldavia

The Zionists' crimes have revolted all upright people, all peace-loving and democratic forces of the world.

The residents of the Jewish Autonomous Region are deeply indignant at the Zionists' aggressive propaganda, their slander against the Soviet Union and misrepresentation of its Leninist nationalities policy. Posing as "defenders" of Soviet Jews, the Zionists would have the world public believe that Jews are discriminated against in the USSR, that their culture is being undermined.

But no matter how sophisticated their inventions may be, they will not obscure the truth. Soviet Jews are a component part of multinational Soviet society. Take, for example, our Birobidzhan, the centre of the Jewish Autonomous Region. Machine building, light industry and the building industry are developing rapidly in Birobidzhan. Unique track-mounted combine harvesters manufactured in Birobidzhan are delivered to many collective and state farms in the Soviet Union and to foreign countries.

Scores of Jews living in Birobidzhan have been elected deputies to the city, regional and territorial Soviets of People's Deputies. The highest decoration of the Soviet state—the Order of Lenin—and the Gold Medal of Hero of Socialist Labour have been presented to Khaya Karasik, a seamstress at the Birobidzhan garment factory.

Also groundless are the lamentations of Zionist propaganda that the national culture of Jews and their language are dying out in the USSR. Birobidzhan public enjoys the performances of the Jewish Chamber Music Theatre. Many plays by the classic of Yiddish literature, Shalom Aleichem, and by Soviet playwrights have been staged by the Birobidzhan Jewish People's Theatre. There is a newspaper in Yiddish, *Birobidzhaner Stern.*

The Jewish Autonomous Region is preparing to celebrate, in the summer of 1984, its 50th anniversary. This jubilee will be marked in Birobidzhan as a great holiday of friendship of the peoples.

Soviet Jews form a part of the single multinational family of the peoples of the USSR. They are engrossed in peaceful constructive work. Soviet people, genuine internationalists, cannot be indifferent when Israel commits acts of brigandage in the Middle East, when Zionism is poisoning the

minds of ordinary people. Today every upright person must join the ranks of fighters against Zionism, against the inventions of its propaganda. The residents of Birobidzhan support the idea of setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion.

Alexei UTEVSKY, Chairman
Executive Committee
Soviet of People's Deputies
Birobidzhan

Every new crime of the Zionists arouses in me feelings of wrath and revulsion. And how can one remain indifferent when one learns from newspapers or telecasts about the monstrous atrocities committed by the Zionists, who are out to colonize Arab lands, to enslave whole peoples?

It is not difficult to see who is encouraging the Israeli military in their outrages. Were it not for US assistance Israel would hardly think that it could do everything it liked with impunity.

The Zionists resort to wide use not only of lethal weapons but also of dirty insinuations. For instance, Tel Aviv is "concerned" about the destiny of Soviet Jews!

What can I say on this score? I am over 50, but never have I encountered anywhere, neither at the plant where I worked nor at offices where I carry out my trade union duties, the "Jewish question" which allegedly worries Tel Aviv. For many years, before I was elected chairman of the Azerbaijan Republican Committee of the Heavy Engineering Workers' Union, I worked as a milling machine operator at the Kishlinsky machine building plant.

The plant's director, Arkadi Kurkovsky, a Jew by nationality, has the respect of all the workers. To us he has always been and remains an excellent engineer and a kind, responsive person.

As a citizen and a patriot of my country, I cannot remain indifferent towards the Zionists' intrigues. In view of this I wholeheartedly support the timely initiative for creating in our country an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. I am ready to take part in its work.

Shamil ALIYEV
Hero of Socialist
Labour
Baku
Azerbaijan

Zionism, which tries to poison the minds and hearts of people with subtle lies, will not stop at using any weapons it is offered by its patrons from the United States, who are lavish when it comes to evil things. I regard exposure of the anti-humane Zionist ideas as a duty of every upright person and the establishment of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion as a very timely undertaking. This voluntary organization will certainly become one more force opposed to any form of racism and working actively for peace and social progress.

Towards the end of the Soviet people's war of 1941-1945 against the fascist invaders I was deputy chief of staff of an army which had fought its way through Byelorussia, never subdued by the invaders, and took part in the liberation of the Soviet Baltic republics. I saw Byelorussian villages razed by the fascists. The ashes of dwellings were

mixed with the ashes of children, women and old people who had been burned alive. Such things will never be forgotten. And when the whole world was horrified by the bloody massacre in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Chatila, I thought that the blood shed in Lebanon was mixed with the ashes of the victims of the fascist invaders on the territory of Byelorussia.

One can try to justify such monstrous atrocities only with the help of a monstrous lie. Precisely this is being done by the rulers of Israel and the leaders of international Zionism waging a struggle against the national liberation movement, against peace and social progress. But the world has seen now that every drop of blood spilled by innocent people in Lebanon is a hundred times heavier than the cloud of the propaganda smokescreen with which Zionism is trying to cover up its racist essence.

Semyon VOLFMAN, Colonel (retd)
Veteran of Great Patriotic War (1941-1945)
Dushanbe
Tajikistan

Today all of us inhabitants of the earth, irrespective of our place of residence, race or religion, are equally responsible for the destiny of the world. I say this because the horrors of the war unleashed by the Hitlerite invaders, the loss of dear ones, the death of millions of our fellow countrymen live on in the memory of my generation.

What the Zionists are doing now in Palestine and Lebanon is strikingly reminiscent of the atroc-

ities of fascism. The Israeli aggressors have turned the Middle East into an area of the most acute tension on the planet.

Can one remain indifferent when human beings are dying nearby? Blinded by their aggressive designs and with the connivance and even frank encouragement of US imperialism, the Israeli hired assassins spare no one, neither the old and sick, nor women, nor children.

People in different parts of the world, indignant at the brutalities of the butchers of the 20th century, are demanding an end to Izraeli aggression and Zionism, for the events in the Middle East threaten universal well-being and peace.

Therefore each of us regards the proposal for establishing an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion as a timely one.

Irakli GVERDTSITELI, Chairman
State Committee of the Georgian SSR
for Science and Technology

The plot of my first novel *Deep Current,* written 35 years ago, is based on a real fact: in the first days of the war a young schoolteacher, a Byelorussian by nationality, saved a Jewish child from Hitlerite butchers and, returning to her village, to her home, told everyone that he was her son. There were innumerable instances like this in the years of the fascist invasion, in the years when Hitler and his accomplices tried to destroy whole peoples, including the Byelorussian people.

Over many centuries Jews, dispersed in Europe,

lived on the land of other peoples. Russian tsarism, like other feudal, monarchic and then bourgeois governments, restricted the rights of Jews. Jewish ghettoes were created. A Pale was established in Russia. But Russian, Byelorussian, Polish, and Ukrainian working people always lived in peace and good-neighbourliness with ordinary Jews.

For the first time in history, the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia made its peoples genuinely equal.

Jews live in all Soviet republics, in all cities, and work in all spheres of the economy, culture and science. Even our enemies cannot deny that among Soviet Jews is to be found the world's highest percentage of persons with a higher education—scientists, physicians, engineers, teachers, stage directors, artists, writers, actors.

All of a sudden, as if by a wave of the conductor's baton from the other side of the ocean, a campaign of "struggle for the rights of Soviet Jews" was launched. Who are they, these "defenders"? It is the Zionists, who have long since been preaching their anti-human racial theory. Zionism stands for social demagogy and fanatic genocide against whole peoples.

This is precisely how the Zionist governments of Israel and their American patrons, together with the powerful Zionist-Israeli lobby, have been and are acting. It is a sacrilege that the robes of "defenders of human rights" have been donned by those who have evicted Palestinians from their homeland, unleashed several wars in the Middle East and occupied Arab territories. The brazenness of the Begins and Shamirs knows no limits, just as their confidence that there will be no punish-

ment for them. The invasion of Lebanon, the murder of many tens of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians, the Sabra and Chatila carnage which shocked the whole world, the poisoning of Arab schoolchildren, the preparations for an attack on Syria—this is far from being a complete list of the bloody deeds of the "defenders of the rights of Jews".

Soviet Jews resolutely reject the inventions about their condition, the slander against their great motherland, a land of socialism, a land of friendship of the peoples.

The creation of the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion is hailed by the entire intelligentsia, by all Soviet people.

Struggle against Zionism must become a cause of every upright person. Zionism must be exposed, branded and destroyed. Its place is on the scrap heap of history.

Ivan SHAMYAKIN, Chairman
Supreme Soviet of Byelorussia
People's Writer of Byelorussia
Hero of Socialist Labour

I wholeheartedly support the Appeal of a group of public figures of our country on the establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. I have more than once thought with an aching heart about the sinister role of the ruling circles of Israel, which has become, at the bidding of imperialism, the policeman of the Middle East, a source of evil, violence and political terror. Israel is now a puppet, and worse, a slave of im-

perialism. A people that oppresses and enslaves other peoples cannot be free.

What a tragic irony of fate: the Jewish state deprives the Arab people of Palestine of their homeland, tortures peaceful civilians, builds concentration camps and acts with nazi-like ruthlessness. I consider this to be an outrage upon the sacred memory of the millions of Jews exterminated by the fascists during the Second World War, upon the memory of the millions of Soviet soldiers who saved the Jewish population of Europe from fascist genocide.

I, a Jew, hate Zionism, which sows medieval fanaticism, grief and death. I know well what it is like: I was in the ranks of the Soviet Army from the first day of the war to the last. My family was butchered by fascists. After the war I participated in the work of the Extraordinary Commission for the Investigation of the Hitlerites' Atrocities on the territory of the Lvov Region, where hundreds of thousands of Jews had been exterminated. My conscience demands that Zionism be brought before the court of history. It is necessary constantly to expose it, to show its reactionary, anti-humane essence to the world.

Professor *Yulian SHULMEISTER,*
Cand. Sc. (Law)
Lvov State University
Veteran of Great Patriotic War
(1941-1945)

International Zionism has long since become a ruthless, deadly tool of imperialism. When I hear the word "war" I recall how my mother and I,

then a teenager, hid from the fascists in the Ukrainian city of Nikolayev. I saw how they shot down and hanged peaceful civilians. Therefore I have hated war since childhood. With pain I read reports about Israeli soldiers trampling over the land of sovereign Lebanon, killing thousands of civilians and arranging the massacre of Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Chatila camps.

Supported by the Reagan Administration, the Israeli Zionists not only interfere in the internal affairs of Middle Eastern countries, but also try to sow seeds of discord in the multinational Soviet Union, a beacon for many countries that have chosen the road of independent development. Bourgeois radio stations and newspapers drum away on Soviet Jews being destitute and deprived of many rights. If Jews were really persecuted in the USSR, how could I have become the director of a large shoe factory, graduated from a specialized secondary school and then from an institute, received a flat with all amenities, and joined the Communist Party of the Soviet Union?

And this is not an isolated instance. When at our factory the question is discussed of promoting specialists to leading engineering posts or electing the trade union committee, we never ask about the nationality of this or that candidate. The only criterion is conscientious work and competence. Soviet people are genuine internationalists. All forms of chauvinism are alien to them. They are not indifferent towards the destinies of peace-loving countries of the Middle East. But today it is not enough to express sympathy for the tragedies of whole peoples and to condemn the aggression of Zionism. It is necessary to fight for the eradication of this evil. Therefore the workforce of the Birobidzhan shoe factory supports the Appeal on the

establishment of an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion, the main objective of which is to unite the efforts of fighters against Zionism.

Yakov SHNAIDERMAN, Director
Birobidzhan shoe factory

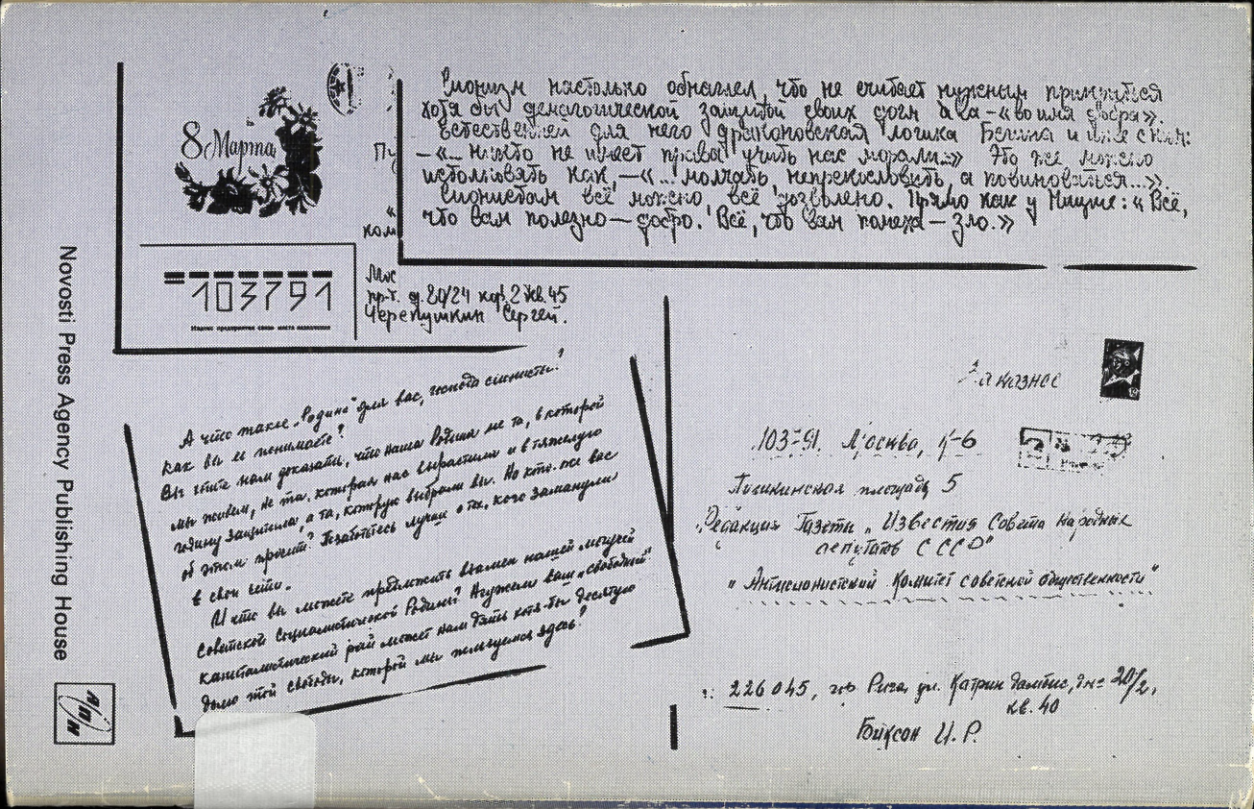
FOUNDING MEETING OF THE ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE OF SOVIET PUBLIC OPINION

Representatives of several public organizations gathered in Moscow on April 21 to examine the initiative of a group of Soviet citizens on setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. The proposal was supported by representatives of public organizations, scientists known in the USSR and abroad, prominent figures in the cultural world, workers and farmers. After its Appeal had been published in the press the initiating group received many letters and telegrams wholeheartedly supporting the idea of setting up an Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion and expressing their authors' desire to be involved in its work.

Those present at the meeting voted unanimously in favour of establishing the Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion. Colonel-General David Dragunsky, twice Hero of the Soviet Union, was elected Chairman. Professor Samuil Zivs, Doctor of Law and Merited Worker in Science of the Russian Federation, was made First Vice-Chairman; Mark Krupkin, Deputy Director of the Novosti Press Agency Publishing House, Igor Belyaev, head of a *Literaturnaya Gazeta* department and Doctor of Economics, and writer Yuri Kolesnikov were elected vice-chairmen.

"Pravda", April 22, 1983

СОВЕТСКИЙ НАРОД ПОДДЕРЖИВАЕТ
на английском языке
Цена 15 коп.



8 Марта

Смотрим настолько обнаглел, что не считает нужным прикрыться хотя бы демагогической заплатой своих догм а la — «во имя добра». Естественным для него драконовская логика Бенина и Пол Пота: — «... никто не имеет права учить нас морали...» Это все можно использовать как — «... молодость непременно ошибается, а повиноваться...». Смотрим всё можно, всё дозволено. Прямо как у Ницше: «Всё, что вам полезно — добро. Всё, что вам помеха — зло.»

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Мос
пр-т. д. 80/24 кв. 2 Ив. 45
Черепушкин Сергей.

А что такое «родина» для вас, господа сионисты? Как вы ее понимаете? Вы книг нам доказали, что наша Родина не то, в которой мы живем, не то, которая нас воспитала и в последнюю войну закрыла, а то, которую выбрали вы. Но кто вас в этом просил? Позаботьтесь лучше о тех, кого запаковали в свои сети.

И что вы имеете предложить взамен нашей «нищей советской социалистической Родины»? Нужны вам «свободный капиталистический рай» имеет нам Гайдар хотя бы долгую дорогу этой свободы, которой мы пользуемся здесь?

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